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RURAL ELECTRIFICATION INCREASES IN SOME SSR;
LAGS IN LATVIA AND WESTERN URALS

MORE RURAL POWER PLANTS --- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 124, 27 May 50

More than 40 steam electric and hydroelectric power plants are being built in the kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and MTS of the Lithuanian SSR. City communal power plants which were put out of commission during the war have been rebuilt.

Pravda, No 133, 13 May 50

The Ministry of Agriculture, Azerbaydzhan SSR, has received equipment for 40 new electric power plants. The plan calls for the electrification of all MTS in the republic this year.

Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 88, 12 Apr 50

In Estonia a plan for the complete electrification of agriculture by 1965 is being worked out. Calculations show that agriculture of the republic will consume as much electric power as industry. In the 15-year perspective, agriculture of the republic will require more than 100,000 kilowatts of electric power capacity.

Izvestiya, No 79, 2 Apr 50

By the end of the year there will be more than 30 hydroelectric power plants and 100 steam-electric power plants in the villages of Moldavia.

Zarya Vostoka, No 86, 27 Apr 50

During 1950, capital investments for improvement of the electric power economy of Georgian SSR resorts will amount to 2,890,000 rubles. The power transmission line between Kutaisi and Takhaltubo is being rebuilt with metal supports instead of wooden ones. A new hydroelectric unit is being installed in the electric power plant of the resort of Shovi. A new transmission line and transformer post is being built on the Tbilisi-Kiketi section.

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Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 106, 21 May 50

In autumn, a year ago, the first experimental wind-driven electric power plant was built in the "Talapker" Kolkhoz, Chuyskiy Rayon, Dzhambul Oblast. This wind-driven "L-D-18" power plant has a capacity of 25 kilowatts. It has worked uninterruptedly for 6 months. At present, five more wind-driven power plants are planned for Kazakhstan.

LATVIAN POWER PLANT OPERATES AT HALF CAPACITY -- Latvju Vards, No 20, 18 May 50

This spring, the water level of the Daugava River was low and the ice moved out without obstructions. In many of the Daugava tributaries, for example, the Aiviekste River, a large quantity of timber could not be floated because of the scarcity of snow and absence of spring floods.

The Kegum Power Plant has not been operating at full capacity for some time. As a result the electrification of kolkhozes has not been progressing.

The area is closely guarded on both banks of the Daugava.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION LAGS IN WESTERN URALS -- Izvestiya, No 120, 21 May 50

In the western Urals there are 421 kolkhoz electric power plants with a total capacity of more than 11,000 kilowatts already in operation. Up to the beginning of 1950, 891 kolkhozes in this region were electrified. This is not many when one considers that this is the largest industrial center in the country and that there are more than 3,000 kolkhozes here.

The Executive Committee of the Molotov Oblast Council decided to construct 223 more hydroelectric plants with a total capacity of over 10,000 kilowatts. This resolution has not been carried out, however, and rural electrification lags far behind the needs of the kolkhozes.

Potential power sites along the Kama river are not utilized. Last year, only 35 percent of the plan for constructing kolkhoz hydroelectric plants was completed and only 21 percent as regards power capacity; in the current year the plan is still not being fulfilled. During the first quarter of this year, the "Sel'electro" Trust completed only 10 percent of its year plan for putting kolkhoz hydroelectric capacity into service, and of the 101 new hydroelectric plants planned for the year, only 77 will be completed.

The state has given the kolkhozes more than 12 million rubles credit for their electric power needs in 1950, but in the first quarter only 619,000 rubles of this sum were used since technical plans were not available and construction of the plants was not carried out.

RECOMMEND CONSOLIDATION OF POWER ADMINISTRATIONS -- Leninskiye Znamya, No 101, 21 May 50

At present, many of the hydroelectric plants in the Karelo-Finnish SSR are divided into many small electric power administrations under the Ministry of Communal Economy. In the western section there are the Kurkiyokskiy and Pitkyarant-skiy Regional Electric Power Administrations plus other regional networks of only 50-200 kilowatt capacity. Split up in such a way, these networks are simply not able to cope with the tasks confronting them.

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The Petrozavodsk and Sortavala Electric Power Administrations are the only two electric power administrations in the Republic which have more or less complete cadres of specialists and technical equipment. They are, therefore, capable of directing the activities of all the communal electric power plants in the Republic. The remaining administrations should be liquidated. Such measures would strengthen the electric power systems and decrease expenses and depreciation.

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